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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Savior, lead us today as a shepherd guides sheep. Direct our lives. Inspire our hearts. May the talents here on Capitol Hill help bring unity and healing to our Nation and world.

Lord, strengthen our lawmakers as they deal with unsolved problems and urgent global needs. Prepare them for the challenges yet to come. Make our Senators eager to lift burdens and ready to respond in service to humanity.

Help us all to feel a bit of the responsibility for the challenges that hang heavy over our Nation and world.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4164

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4164) to prohibit the expenditure of Federal funds for the establishment or operation of the Disinformation Governance Board in the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will now be placed on the calendar.

ABORTION

Mr. SCHUMER. So, Mr. President, tomorrow, the U.S. Senate will vote to protect one of the most fundamental freedoms that women have in this

country: the freedom to choose whether or not to have an abortion. Few decisions are more personal and few decisions are more private than decisions women make regarding their own pregnancies. Few should be more out of bounds to elected politicians and to the whims of government. But, sadly, few rights are in as much peril right now as the fundamental right to choose.

If this abominable decision becomes law, women will lose their freedom in so many ways—a giant step backward in the United States, where expanding freedom has always been our goal and our aspiration.

Tomorrow's vote will be one of the most important votes we take in this Chamber in decades because, for the first time in 50 years, a conservative majority—an extreme conservative majority—on the Supreme Court is on the brink of declaring that women do not have a right to an abortion, they do not have the right to control their own bodies, and they do not have the right to healthcare in the ways that they believe they need.

If that happens, tens of millions of women will see their freedoms contract in the blink of an eye. Our children will grow up in a world where they have fewer rights than their parents and grandparents had. America will take a painful and damaging step backward.

The American people will be watching the Senate closely tomorrow, and they will not forget how their elected Senators voted. I ask my colleagues to think carefully about their vote, to grapple with the impact of a world without Roe because all of us will have to answer for this vote for the rest of our time in public office.

Now, it is worth saying over and over again: Last week's draft decision didn't come out of nowhere; it didn't materialize in a vacuum. On the contrary, it is precisely the outcome that extreme Republicans have been working toward for years. Leader MCCONNELL himself has admitted that this was their plan

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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